[H.A.S.C. No. 101-26]

FULL COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

OF

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF WILLIAM H. HOGAN, JR., GENERAL COUNSEL, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

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FULL COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF WILLIAM H. HOGAN, JR., GENERAL COUNSEL, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, Thursday, September 28, 1989.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 4:30 p.m., in room 2118, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Les Aspin (chairman of the committee) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. I see some old familiar faces that I have not seen in a long time in the crowd.

I hope you are all very impressed with the professional and substantive way we deal with reprogrammings. However, I don't think you are here to watch us do reprogrammings.

Let me move on to the second part of the agenda and ask the Hogan family to sit at the table.

We have a Bill Hogan, his wife, Vivian, and sons, Drexel and Mike. Let me begin with a statement.

At this time we have a very special occasion to observe. Bill Hogan, our capable general counsel, is retiring soon. He is completing over 20 years of service to the committee, the last 12½ as general counsel, and over 46 years of public service beginning in 1940, when he enlisted the United States Navy.

Except for three years following World War II, he served in the Navy until retirement in 1968 as a Captain, Judge Advocate Corps.

I am sure all of the Members of the committee will agree that we are indebted to Bill for his years of outstanding service. But we Democrats are doubly indebted to him, and Mr. Mavroules triply indebted.

In addition, all of the retired military officers who have worked on the committee staff are particularly indebted to him. You will understand why in a moment.

Some of you may know that in August, 1968, Bill became Administrative Assistant to the late William H. Bates, of Massachusetts, then ranking minority Member of this committee and a much admired and respected Member of the House, who had been Bill's roommate in law school.

Bill was loaned to our Investigations Subcommittee in 1969 for—of all things—an investigation into drug use in the military. He returned to complete the task after Mr. Bates died in 1969, and shortly after was appointed to the full committee staff as counsel.

What you may not know is that, on Mr. Bates' death, leaders of the Republican party asked Bill Hogan—a native of Lynn, Massachusetts—to run on the GOP ticket for the seat. As I get the story from my impeccable sources, Bill was called to the White House—this as the first term of President Nixon—and urged to run.

In fact, I understand that Charles Colson, among others, did the urging, also I would point out, a native of Massachusetts.

Bill asked how much money the national party—that is the Republican Party—could guarantee him. The answer was $2,500. Bill said, "Thank you very much," and declined the honor.

So we Democrats owe him a double debt—for his years of service—and for not adding to the opposition. Though a Republican, his other habits are good, and he has been a truly nonpartisan servant of all Members of the committee. And Nick Mavroules owes him an additional debt of gratitude, because the congressional seat Bill declined to run for is the one Nick now holds.

Michael Harrington owes him a debt because he held Mavroules' seat before Nick did. That was also the seat Hogan might have had.

Robert Frost, another famous New Englander, speaks in a well-known poem of "The Road Not Taken." In this case the road not taken has been our good fortune.

Some of you also may not know that prior to Bill's joining the committee there had been an ironclad rule against hiring retired military officers for the committee staff. Chairmen Vinson and Rivers would never consider such appointments.

But when Bill came over to the committee, as I mentioned earlier, he came over on loan. The committee was so impressed with his work that when his investigation was completed, then Chairman L. Mendel Rivers (S.C.) asked him to join the staff as a committee counsel.

His appointment broke the ice and those retired officers who have since been employed are indebted to Bill for setting that precedent. While I wouldn't have always agreed with what Mendel Rivers did, I know he was very right when he ignored his rule and kept Bill out of the ranks of those eligible to run for Congress.

Bill, upon the organization of the committee for the 95th Congress in February 1977, you were appointed general counsel, and served admirably in that capacity since that time.

I want to thank you for your years of distinguished legal service to the committee.

Before I ask that Mr. Wincup read the Resolution of Appreciation, are there any other Members that would like to be recognized?

Mr. Dickinson.

Mr. DICKINSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to make a few comments.

I have known Bill since I first came on the committee, 20-plus years ago.

Bill Bates was my ranking Member and mentor. It was at that time that I first got to know Bill Hogan.

I have been a friend and admirer of his personally and professionally ever since. I have not always agreed with his judgment, but I always have to respect his integrity. For instance, Bill has

been a big Boston Red Sox fan. That says something about his judgment.

Don't give up, hang in there. I have about concluded the Red Sox will win the pennant the same year I become chairman of this committee.

Hope springs eternal.

Bill, it was a matter of comfort that when we had the authorization bill on the Floor, you would come over and sit behind me on the Republican side.

He often didn't have to say anything, but at least he sat on our side of the aisle.

I knew you were there, Bill. Bill was always very—whenever you went to him for advice to be steered one way or another, he was always very impartial, was very helpful to all the Members equally.

Bill, for the past few years has had the same or similar type of malady as I have with my knees. I had the cartilage taken out of my knee about 10, 12 years ago and had to stop playing tennis, paddle ball, whatever.

Since then I have had a tough time getting around. Bill has had a tough time with his knees, too. As a matter of fact, he is the only fellow I know that would be just about on a par with me if we got in a tail-kicking contest.

I thought I might challenge him to a race. He was about the only fellow I felt like I might beat. I think if we were both jogging on a race course, they would probably have to time us with a calendar instead of a clock.

Bill, because of his knees has had some bad falls while he has been working for the committee, at least that is what he said caused him to fall. There was a malicious rumor going around that he was really subject to the Irish flu, which on occasion has been rumored to be an epidemic on the committee. However, I've noticed Bill is a straight Coca Cola drinker at committee functions.

I don't know if the judge would agree with that or not. I see Bill Cook in the back. I was just thinking about, you Bill.

Before you leave the committee for good, though, I would like to just privately, if necessary, ask you to explain the expression "Drunk as Hogan's goat." I have heard that all my life, and I think perhaps if anybody could clear that up for me, you could.

The Chairman mentioned people that were grateful that Bill didn't run. He mentioned Mike Harrington and Mavroules.

Because you didn't run, we got Michael Harrington and I always had a grudge against you for that, Bill. That is just an inside joke. I think the only person that is not deeply profoundly sorry to see you leave, Bill, might be Colleen Preston, who is getting your job.

For all of us, Bill, I want to say that we have admired you over the years, enjoyed your friendship and your advice and counsel. We will miss you very much and want to wish you Godspeed. Whatever your future endeavors might be, the next time you retire, from whatever that might be, we will come to that occasion, too.

God speed.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Charlie Bennett.

Mr. BENNETT. I have had the pleasure of working with Bill on a number of things in the past. He has been a great help to me.

Every time we differed, he has been on the right side of it. I appreciate his inventiveness, carefulness, his thoughtfulness, and his persistence for what he believes is the right approach to law.

But I guess the greatest feeling I have for him is that he is a real friend to everybody on the committee and every member of the staff. It is inspiring to have a friendship like yours. There is no real way to express it.

I will say there is nobody I have a greater regard for than you on the staff.

If it weren't for the staff, this committee would really be in bad shape because you all do a wonderful job for us.

I feel a very deep sense of gratitude to the staff and particularly to you.

So God speed.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

To Bill and Vivian and to your two sons Drexel and Mike, certainly a nice looking family sitting down there today. Our friendship has been over the 20-odd years that both of us, Bill, especially you, have been working on the committee.

Mr. Chairman, I wish Bill Hogan would have run for Congress because when Michael Harrington ran, I had to sit next to him. I spent all my time telling him the difference between an admiral and a general.

Michael would ask seriously, which is the general's driver? I said he is down in the car, Michael. He said, well, I thought the drivers came up here with them.

But what I want you all to know is that Bill Hogan used me. I don't know whether he used me right or wrong. But he would find me and say, "We are going into session in the House, and we want you to go over and get unanimous consent to allow House Armed Services Committee to sit while the full House is in session".

I enjoyed doing it, Bill. You kept me busy. Bill Hogan spent a lot of time on the floor of the House. So much so that Tip O'Neill gave him a name. Called him the Admiral. That name has kind of stuck with Bill Hogan.

We wish you the best, Admiral.

The CHAIRMAN. Any other comments?

Let me ask Kim Wincup to read the resolution.

Mr. WINCUP. Resolution of Appreciation, Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives.

Whereas, with the highest distinction William H. Hogan, Jr., has served this country for over 46 years—first, as an officer in the United States Navy, then as an aide to Congressman William H. Bates, and finally for over 20 years as counsel to the Committee on Armed Services—twelve and a half of those years as general counsel;

Whereas, William H. Hogan, Jr., participated in countless investigations, including the investigation into the Massacre at My Lai, the first investigation into Drug Abuse in the Military, and the investigation of Honor Code violations at West Point;

Whereas, as counsel to numerous Special Subcommittees, including the Special Subcommittee on Defense Aspects of the Equal Em-

ployment Opportunity Program, the Special Subcommittee on Disciplinary Problems in the Navy, the Special Subcommittee to Probe Disturbances at Military Bases, and the Special Subcommittee on Intelligence, William H. Hogan, Jr., provided expert advice that was invaluable to the members of the committee;

Whereas, because of his special efforts and mastery of issues in such diverse areas as the Naval Petroleum Reserves, CHAMPUS, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Admission of Women to the Service Academies; and the contempt of Congress citations relating to the Watergate break-ins, William H. Hogan, Jr., contributed greatly to the committee's resolution of these critical issues;

Whereas, William H. Hogan, Jr., because of his integrity, sincerity, and professional demeanor, has earned the respect and affection of the committee members and his staff colleagues;

Whereas, throughout his 20 years of service on the staff of the Committee on Armed Services William H. Hogan, Jr., has provided advice and counsel to the members of this nonpartisan committee in a fair and evenhanded way, demonstrating outstanding loyalty to the committee and the House of Representatives; now, therefore be it

Resolved,

That the members of the Committee on Armed Services commend William H. Hogan, Jr., for his years of exemplary and faithful service to the committee, and wish him well as he retires; and, be it further

Resolved,

That the Committee on Armed Services expresses its gratitude for the many contributions of William H. Hogan, Jr., to the committee, the Congress, and the national security of the United States, and directs that this resolution be spread upon the permanent record of the Committee on Armed Services, and appropriately presented.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

All in favor say aye.

Opposed.

Let the record show that the resolution passed unanimously.

Bill Hogan, the floor is yours.

Mr. HOGAN. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Dickinson, other distinguished Members of the committee, first off, for all those nice things that have been said, I am very grateful.

But there are others who might share it with me, and a good deal of what I have been, certainly the responsibility rests with Vivian and our boys, one of whom William, is absent today. And I mean that sincerely.

I am grateful to you for the opportunity to have served, you and your predecessors, Mr. Chairman, to have served this committee for over 20 years. It hasn't been a job to me.

It has certainly been an opportunity to do something worthwhile for my country.

The older I get, the more serious I am about that very important aspect of my life, with my time in the service, which was really highlighted two weeks ago when I was able to attend the launching of the Arleigh Burke at Bath, Maine.

I was a member of that squadron during World War II, DesRon-23, all the time that Admiral Burke was there. To have that honor bestowed upon my hero was sort of a crowning piece my work.

I now know why a lawyer is, you know, a fool to try to be counseled by himself. I find it difficult to talk today. That may come as a surprise to some, but I do.

I just want you to know how grateful I am to all of you and all those here who I have been able to share my experience with.

I can't say too much about how glad I am that you let me be a part of your reprogramming agenda today because I hope that it will bode well for my future.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, be sure to leave us your phone number. You may find yourself reprogrammed back in.

Let me now welcome you and all of the guests here to some refreshments upstairs in 2212.

We will adjourn to reconvene in 2212 and have a little cake and a little refreshment.

Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 4:50 p.m., the committee adjourned.]

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